

THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST

10 AUGUST 1961
TOP SECRET

1. East Germans consider sealing West Berlin--
East Zone border

The SED (Communist party) Central Committee is to discuss a plan today, already approved by the party politburo, to have customs police turn back all East Germans at the border south and southeast of West Berlin and to close the main bridge from Potsdam.

(MAP)

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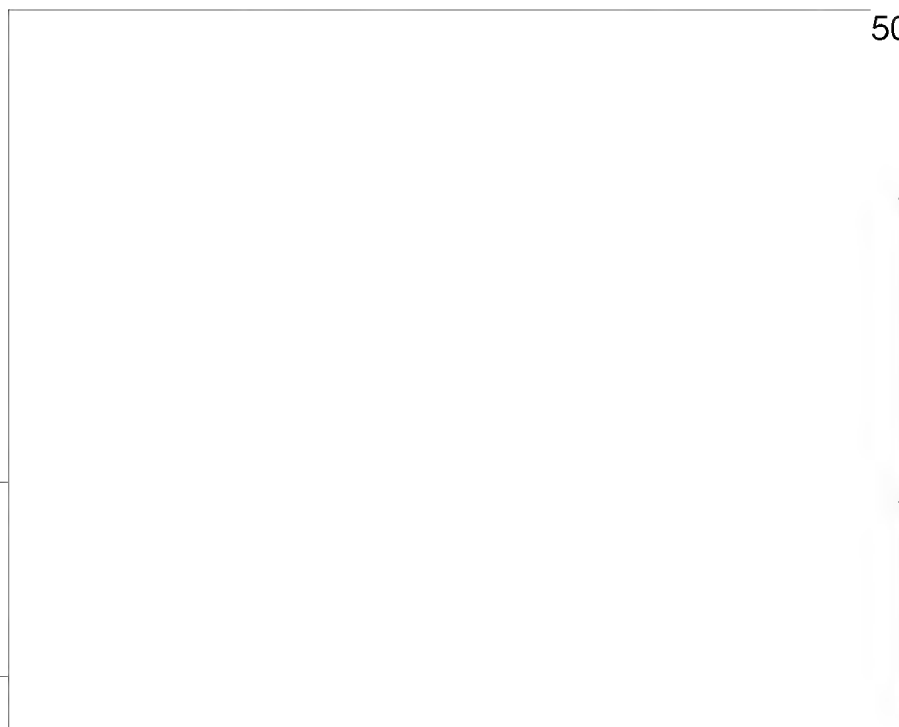
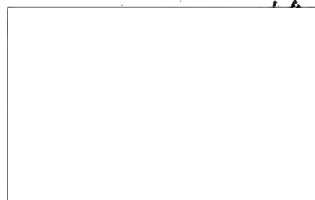
2. Violence in Northern Rhodesia

Acts of arson and sabotage have been blamed on the United National Independence Party which apparently has resorted to violence to protest a proposed constitution which it feels would preserve European political hegemony in Rhodesia. The British governor of the protectorate has banned the party and has also moved troops into the northern area to reinforce the local police.

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3. Congo developments



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NOTES

- A. Venezuela has accepted a Soviet invitation to send a parliamentary delegation to Moscow and seven members of Congress are scheduled to depart next Tuesday. Moscow has previously extended similar invitations to various Latin American nations and several have accepted and sent missions to the USSR in the past year or so.

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- B. Indonesia has prepared a draft resolution on US-Cuban relations which it may present to the non-aligned nations conference in September. The resolution, which notes that Cuba is pursuing an "independent foreign policy of non-alignment," proposes that the non-aligned nations offer their good offices to find a peaceful solution to the dispute. Cuba, of course, will be a full participant in the conference.

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- C. Some Cuban anti-aircraft units are now equipped with Chinese Communist weapons, probably machine guns. Earlier this year Raul Castro announced that China had sent Cuba "hundreds of machine guns" as a gift.

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- D. A high level Soviet trade delegation arrived in Peiping Tuesday. They may be there to discuss export shortfalls and payment problems. The 1961 trade protocol between the two countries was signed only last April after protracted negotiations.

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- E. Part of group of Soviet instrumentation ships which participated in the manned orbit shot last Sunday have remained on station in the mid-Pacific, suggesting that another vehicle launching may be attempted.

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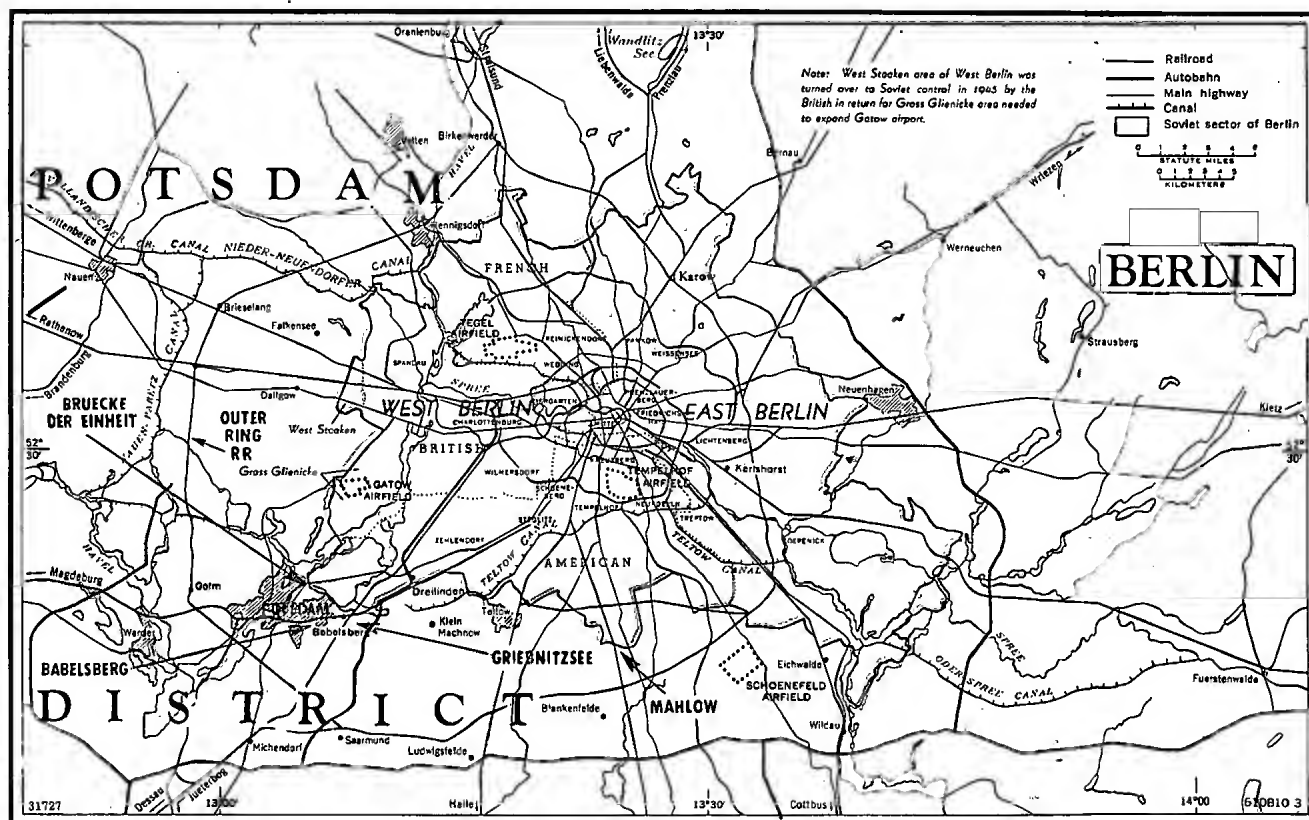
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WATCH COMMITTEE CONCLUSIONS--9 August 1961

No Sino-Soviet Bloc country intends to initiate direct military action in the immediate future.



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